

Sept 2017 | **Global Business Innovation**

Dear Colleagues,

Introduction

The Global Business Innovation (GBI) Enabling Capability Platform (ECP) aims to foster inter-disciplinary and impactful research, around the main theme “From Value to impact”. Over the last few months, the Capability Development Plan of the ECP has been developed, following an open and collaborative approach, and involving an external panel of 40 C-level executives in a foresight exercise aiming at “Anticipating tomorrow’s challenges and expectations from Business Research”.

Four Research Priority Areas, articulated around the innovation lifecycle, have been identified:

➤ Collaborative Design Approaches for Innovation

This research area concentrates on the design of innovation ecosystems and platforms, stakeholder engagement, co-creation, creativity, design thinking, business models, foresight, user experience, lead user innovation, value constellations, and ideation. It gathers a set of competences and skills required to engage in an open and collaborative innovation process.

➤ Organizational Transformation & Innovation Capabilities Enhancement

This research area embraces the portfolio of capabilities required to organize and implement innovation, including technology management, leadership and human resource management, process management, ICT-enabled innovation, knowledge management, change management, engaging communication, quality management, supply chain management and optimisation. It also addresses the changes in work practices resulting from the digital transformation.

➤ Innovation Governance & Performance

This research area addresses the interplay between innovation, regulation, law and intellectual property. It also considers management control and performance measurement. It further embraces the governance of innovation systems, analyses the framework conditions for innovation to thrive, and explores the mechanisms that support the diffusion of innovation, as well as the socio technical systems of and conducive to innovation. Finally, it encompasses business ethics.

➤ **Innovation Valuation & Impact Measurement**

This research area concentrates on the measurement, valuation and evaluation of innovation, across units of analysis. It covers policy analysis, ex ante, in media res and ex post impact assessment, as well as the design and definition of new and alternative metrics and dashboards. Besides the firm-level analysis, it also embraces valuation and impact measurement at other levels of analysis (e.g. nations, teams, projects) or on innovation-related objects such as brands.

Those research priority areas will form the backbone of the ECP, and applicants for the upcoming VC Fellow positions, as well as prospective PhD candidates are invited to align their proposals to one of those areas.

ECP Funding Opportunities – Insights on the 2017 Funding Rounds

The funding rounds for the 2017 ECP Opportunity and Capability Funds have now been closed, and the successful proposals are briefly described below. Congratulations to all the successful recipients!

ECP Opportunity Fund Projects

The Selection Panel decided to support 2 GBI proposals under the Opportunity Fund

Adoption and Diffusion of Disruptive Technologies: The Case of Additive Manufacturing in MedTech Industry



Led by Dr. Sam Tavassoli and conducted in cooperation with the Advanced Manufacturing and Fabrication ECP, the project investigates the adoption of disruptive technologies and emergence of entrepreneurial opportunities by focusing on the case of Additive Manufacturing (AM) in the Medical Technology (MedTech) industry, particularly in implants application. The expected outcome is a comprehensive guideline and/or an accepted regulatory framework for the adoption and diffusion of implants applications of AM. This is done by developing solutions to remove technological, market, regulatory barriers for both patent-specific and off-the-shelf implants. The impact will be to unlock the potential of AM applications in the MedTech, which will benefit potential new entrants to the industry, incumbent firms, health care system, and patients in Australia. It will also offer a benchmark in University-Industry collaboration via RMIT's leadership.

Intelligent asset management of smart buildings of the future

A team of RMIT researchers: Prof. Sujeeva Setunge and A/Prof. Kevin Zhang from the School of Engineering, Dr. Flora Salim and Prof. Matt Duckham from the School of Science and A/Prof. Usha Iyer-Raniga and Dr. Ruwini Edirisinghe from Property Construction and Project Management will develop a novel solution for optimised management of building portfolios with the funding awarded under the ECP opportunity funding scheme. The solution will integrate predictive modelling of degradation of buildings with Building Information Modelling, sensor technologies for utilisation monitoring, automated inspections and compliance auditing. Outcomes will deliver significant value to managers of large building portfolios by reducing the inspection time and minimising the life cycle cost while improving the safety of occupants. The project is jointly supported by the City of Melbourne and the Hendry Group.



The photo above shows the participants of a workshop conducted at RMIT for property managers of 25 local councils

ECP Capability Development Funded Projects

10 proposals submitted under the GBI as the lead platform were selected by the appraisal committee that comprises of the 8 ECP Directors. In total, 180 proposals were assessed. The projects are described below:

Development of Fintech Research and Innovation Capability at RMIT university

Led By: Michael Fairbairn



Deliver a master class to develop Fintech capability at RMIT, through collaboration and knowledge sharing with leading global partners. New technologies are driving massive change in financial systems. There is strong demand for academia to drive research and analysis in this sector, specifically in cyber security, block chain, data analytics, economic and regulatory politics support, law and strategic management research, presenting strategic positioning for RMIT.

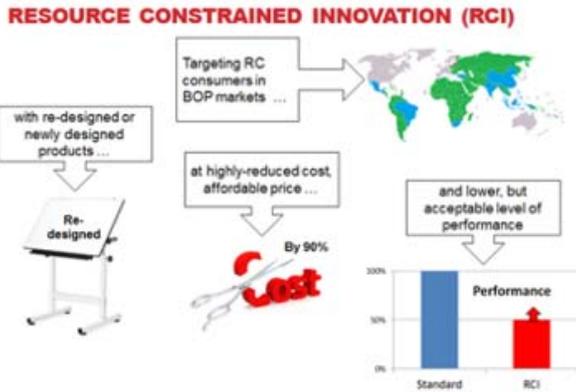
Global experience and learnings from financial centres is critical for RMIT to develop capability in Fintech and the master class will support and enhance RMIT’s research and innovation, creating new connections for further collaboration with external organisations.

The key partners involved are Fintech Victoria, Austrade, KPMG, ANZ, Monetary Authority of Singapore, DBS Bank

Watch out for further news.

Resource-constrained Innovation (RCI) – Initiating Industry Collaboration

Led By: Dr. Gerrit De Waal

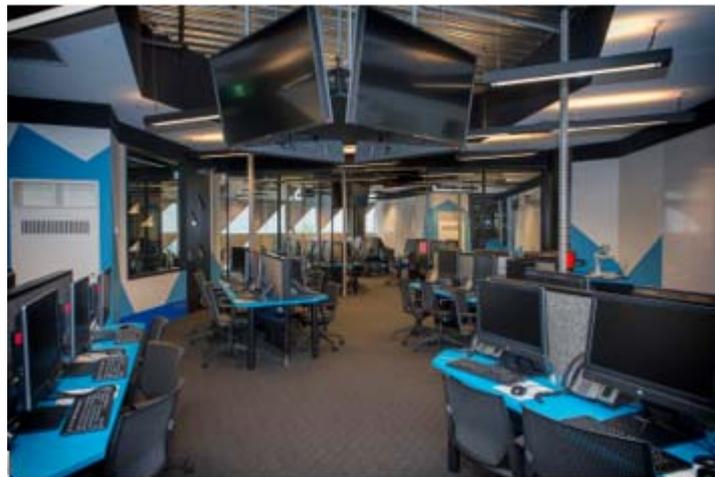


While a very small number of Australian firms have already launched RCI products, the majority are yet to realise the huge potential of this strategic approach to growing export revenue. RCI is achieved through a combination of product and market development activities that are tailored to the unserved and underserved needs of consumers in bottom-of-the-pyramid markets.

This project aims to build an RCI knowledge base for the Australian context and create awareness of and interest in RCI via 1-day workshop on 30 October 2017 with a target group of 15 Australian food manufacturers. This project is aligned with the Food Agility CRC

The RMIT Entrepreneur Assessment and Development Workshop

Led By: Prof. Robert Hoffmann



Conduct an executive training and assessment centre event in the RMIT Behavioural Business Lab with serial entrepreneurs to identify the motivations and decision making that give them their entrepreneurial edge. We aim to build a unique new capability in experimental entrepreneurship research to inform policy and promote industry engagement

Symposium on Risks, Opportunities and Partnerships in Indigenous Australian Business Entities (IABE)

Led By: Assoc. Prof. Prem Yapa



Organising Team: Assoc Prof. Prem Yapa; Prof. Nava Subramaniam; Prof Mark Leenders and Prof Supriya Singh

This symposium aims to develop an expert network supporting IABE's capacity to manage risks and opportunities for better business performance and relationship making. IABEs play a critical economic and a social role in Australia. Yet, many IABEs are nascent, needing more innovative ways to nurture effective management styles. This event is critical for new knowledge development by key stakeholder participation and insights on how IABEs perceive and take on business risks which will inform policy making and partnership development for IABE business investment and governance capability development. The symposium is scheduled in the National Indigenous Business month - on 18 October 2017 as a one-day event.

Potentially working with: Australian Indigenous Governance Institute (AIGI), Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) and the Governance Institute of Australia. The event is also supported by COB's Governance Accountability and Law (GAL) research priority area.

Enhancing capacity of civil society networked responses to engage with business on human rights

Led By: Dr. Annie Delaney

This project is centred around building a network of civil society actors to explore innovative ways to improve business capacity to respond to human rights abuse in global supply chains. The business and human rights agenda has gained momentum yet challenges remain in how to progress this regarding informal work in global supply chains. This project aims to advance the research capacity of an RMIT initiative led by Dr Annie Delaney with collaborating organisations, Homeworkers Worldwide (UK) and Civil Initiatives for Development and Peace (CIVIDEP) Bangalore, India. One of the key events of the project will be a meeting with civil society and business stakeholders to discuss issues for leather footwear homeworkers in the supply chain and the potential for future research collaboration

Enhancing RMIT's Capability as an Australian and Global Leader in Business and Human Rights

Led By: Dr. Shelley Marshall

How businesses conduct themselves and impact communities, workers, consumers and other stakeholders shapes our world. The importance of fostering sound human rights practices in business and providing redress when rights are breached is gaining increasing recognition in Australia and globally. This project aims to put RMIT at the forefront of developments.

The key partners in this project are the Oxfam Australia, the Human Rights Law Centre, Australasian Centre for Corporate Responsibility and Jubilee Australia. Funds received will allow RMIT to co-chair the recently launched Network for Corporate



business analytics

We invite industry leaders from CSIRO, ARCBS, PwC Australia, AEMO and few other industries as key partners.

We will organise three workshops. RMIT staff who are working in the area of decision making modelling and business analytics are encouraged to contact us to be invited in the project activities.

Sustainable Entrepreneur: Alleviating negative emotional states through intelligent materials

Led By: Prof. Pia Arenius

We combine interdisciplinary expertise and research methodologies across three fields to explore links between entrepreneurial process, emotions, stress and the wellbeing of the entrepreneur, and to build our capabilities for further studies. The RMIT team consists of Professor Pia Arenius, Associate Professor Olga Troynikov, HDR Senior Lecturer Afreen Huq and two HDR candidates. We will collaborate with Associate Professor Maw Der Foo from National University of Singapore, who is an expert of technologies enabling real time measurement and experience sampling methodology.

HDR Research Translation Collaboration

Led By: David Swift

HDR Research Translation Collaboration Platform that will combine workshops and social events to enable networking, collaboration and peer-to-peer learning across the Colleges. Research translation often requires a broad mix of skills – for example a scientist with a technical solution may require someone with business knowledge to validate a market need. The proposed HDR network will provide opportunities for new, innovative translation projects to grow from the ground up

Past GBI Events

16th May - Innovation Workshop (Foresight Exercise) - SHAPING THE FUTURE OF BUSINESS RESEARCH

On Tuesday, 16th May 2017, about 40 senior industry thought leaders gathered at RMIT Storey Hall. The focus of the two sessions (AM and PM) was to shape the future of RMIT's business research. Leveraging the participant's executive-level knowledge with a foresight exercise; the workshop aimed to generate future insights on the required skills, competences and capabilities of the current workforce. In turn, impactful research that would enable organisations to face future challenges and enhance their innovation capabilities can be defined.



The thought leaders represented a diverse mix of organisations including KPMG, ANZ, Telstra, Medibank, Deloitte, IBM, Dulux Group, Siemens, Luminal VR, NAB, Planet Innovation, Kikki.K and Microsoft. These leaders were casted into the future through purposely created research based scenarios. The results of a collaborative, creative, enjoyable and innovative process were stimulating insights to frame meaningful and relevant research agendas, which could shape the future of business research.

12th May - 3 Day Hackathon - #RegHack

Partly sponsored by GBI, the 3 day hackathon event ran within RMIT University City Campus from Friday 12th of May until Sunday 14th of May. Led by Chami Akmeemana, Director of ConsenSys, the largest Blockchain focused company in the world, together with partners from Microsoft, ANZ, ASIC, AUSTRAC, FinTechVictoria, Startup Victoria, BlockChain Assoc. Canada, DTI, ADCCA and RMIT University.



Over 100 participants form 14 teams to tackle the problem statement of “Do you have an interest in helping solve regulatory issues in the Financial Services and the Energy Sector in Australia? How do we use RegTech to make regulatory compliance a strategic advantage that’s a win for the regulator, market participants and the consumer?” Over the three days, the participants were exposed to the technologies surrounding Blockchain as well as being mentored and guided to develop a solid business idea. The participants also spent the days exploring hurdles surrounding tech solutions to regulatory issues



Upcoming Events – Save the Date

ISPIM Innovation Summit 2017

10th – 13th December, Melbourne

ISPIM and RMIT University invite researchers, managers, executives and consultants to

the 2017 edition of the ISPIIM Innovation Summit



ISPIIM Save The Date



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